

MIAA/Special Olympics MA
Unified Sports Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
4/30/19

Attendees: Kevin Hausmann, John Breault, Tom Angelo, Sean Mackin, Jim Scanlon, Jessica Winders, Ali DeLuca, Jared Shannon, Patti Doherty, Rachel Moo, Peter Smith, Kathy Lutz, Peter Boucher, Todd Bazydlo

Regrets: Bill Martin, Bill Garcia, Joe Francis

Meeting called to order at 10:09am.

Unified Track and Field Season Update

A draft Sectional and State meet format and roster participation overview were provided to committee members. Discussion took place regarding regular season meets, balancing the schedule with opponents of equal size, league meets and schools choosing not to participate in Sectionals.

The committee discussed the ratios of partners and athletes on teams. The challenge of not limiting participation while creating meaningful involvement for all involved was discussed. Some schools have an application process for partners. Other states have established rules regarding the partner/athlete ratio (example - cannot exceed 70% in either direction).

The committee discussed balancing competition at sectionals when some team rosters have a partner/athlete ratio beyond 3 to 1. Communication will be made with schools regarding reducing partner competition slots representative of athlete competition slots. Further discussion took place regarding establishing a subcommittee to review these topics.

*Motion – Establish a subcommittee to study the regular season and tournament formats and make recommendations. Motion passed 11-0.

Volunteers - Sean Mackin, Pete Boucher, John Breault, Kevin Hausmann, Tom Angelo, Jared Shannon. The goal is to meet during the summer/fall and bring recommendations to the full committee.

*Motion – Roster sizes of 25 or more students will be placed in Division 1 for the Sectional and State Meets. Motion passed 11-0.

Discussion took place regarding the placement of schools in geographic sections.

*Motion – Finalize the alignments as adjusted on the screen. Approved 10-0-1.

Further discussion took place regarding sectional/state meet logistics and a potential wheelchair division in the 100.

June 30 is the deadline for Unified Basketball applications.

The MIAA website will be updated to include a Unified Sports section. Committee members asked if it is possible to add Unified Sports to the MIAA online scheduling system.

The committee recommended a meeting schedule of September/January/May for the 2019-20 school year. The subcommittee will meet during the summer.

Meeting adjourned at 12:53pm.